



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

YAMAGATA

Atty. Ref.: 3553-2

Serial No. 09/391,399

Group: 2862

Filed: September 8, 1999

Examiner: T. Fetzner

For: MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING APPARATUS

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April 23, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action dated December 23, 2002, favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the remarks set forth herein is respectfully requested.

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is earnestly solicited.

The rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Boernert et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,317,619, hereinafter "Boernert") is respectfully traversed.

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